

§ 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

***Amendments***

***In the Specification:***

On the first page of the specification, on the line following the title, please insert the following sentence - This application is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/GB00/00321, filed on 3 February 2000, which was published under PCT Article 21(2) in English and which is fully incorporated herein by reference. --

***In the Claims:***

Please cancel claims 22 and 23.

Please substitute the following claim 3 for the pending claim 3:

3. (once amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein the crosslinking is effected by means of two or more different bonds selected from the group consisting of ether, ester, sulfone, amine, imino and amide bonds.

Please substitute the following claim 4 for the pending claim 4:

4. (once amended) A process according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the cross-linking agent is selected from the group consisting of formaldehyde, gluteraldehyde, divinyl sulfone, a polyanhydride, a polyaldehyde, a polyhydric alcohol, carbodiimide,